

Town of Arlington Board of Selectmen

Meeting Agenda

May 1, 2017 7:15 PM Selectmen's Chambers, 2nd Floor, Town Hall

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS / OTHER BUSINESS

- Request for Approval: Public Art Display on Minuteman Bikeway
 Cecily Miller & Adria Arch
 (postponed from 4.24.17 meeting)
- Approval of Treasurer Bond
 Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

WARRANT ARTICLE HEARINGS

Article for Review:

Article 27 Acceptance of Legislation/Special Education Reserve Fund (postponed from 4.24.17 meeting)

Next Scheduled Meeting of BoS May 8, 2017



Request for Approval: Public Art Display on Minuteman Bikeway

Summary:

Cecily Miller & Adria Arch (postponed from 4.24.17 meeting)

ATTACHMENTS:

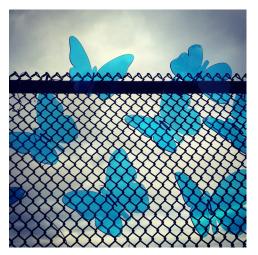
Type File Name Description

□ Reference Material acac_apa_bikeway_proposal_4_21_17.pdf Reference

PROPOSAL: ART ON THE MINUTEMAN BIKEWAY

A Partnership Project of the Arlington Commission on the Arts and Culture and Arlington Public Art

We propose to site 4 temporary "pop-up" art pieces on the Bikeway in the spring and summer of 2017 and one larger scale-temporary public art commission in the Fall, 2017. Our purpose is two-fold: to contribute to the Bikeway's 25th Anniversary celebration and to enhance the connection between Arlington Center and Capitol Square/East Arlington. These two neighborhoods are included in our pending application to create Arlington's first Cultural District.



Pop Up Projects

Funded with a grant from the Arlington Cultural Council

Flutter

We are excited to bring Flutter to Arlington, a work created by Claudia Ravischiere and Michael Moss and originally installed in Fort Point, Boston. Flutter consists of 60+ silhouetted plexi butterflies, in translucent blue color, which would be mounted in a graceful formation on the chain link bordering the bike path above an underpass for car traffic. In this location, Flutter connects with the natural beauty of the site; a view of Spy Pond will be framed by the plexi forms. It alludes to movement, travel, and migration, reflecting the role of the path as a transportation corridor that traverses three towns.



The Rhetoric of Opposites

Arlington resident Nilou Moochhala proposes to create a text-based piece to highlight the divisive language that dominates many current national political debates. Moochhala is inspired by the Bikeway's location, which spans some of the same terrain traversed by William Dawes on his historic ride during the American War of Independence. The installation will use the Bikeway's two lanes of traffic – going in opposite directions – to make a point; pairs of words will be juxtaposed by stencilling them onto the surface of each lane using spray chalk. For example: "Us/Them" and "Fear/Free".



ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON ARTS & CULTURE

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City Fox

Arlington's greenspaces provide food and shelter for many small animals: foxes, skunks, racoons, possums, squrrels and a huge variety of birds. In conjunction with Arlington Public Art's Fox Festival Parade, we will install a fox created by an artist based in London who goes by Stewy. Stewy has been creating images of urban wildlife found in London's streets and backyards and painting them in unexpected places -- where you encounter them as a surprise, just as you would a living creature. Stewy has agreed to send us a stencil printed on paper that we can wheatpaste onto the wall of the pedestrian underpass below the Bikeway.

Knit-In

Adria Arch will lead a community based project to knit colorful sleeves for a cluster of tree trunks along the bikeway. This project will mobilize Arlington's knitters to create a large scale collaborative work of art designed and directed by Adria. Knit-In has been inspired by similar projects around the globe, and will incorporate messages of environmental stewardship., community cooperation, and festive pageantry for the Bikeway's 25th Anniversary.



Fall Commission: Frank Vasello

We propose to invite Frank Vasello to create a site specific piece along the Minuteman Bikeway. We have identified two possible sites which have vantage points removed from the Bikeway, to avoid interference with traffic flow:

- 1. On the side of the staircase that descends from the Bikeway to playground areas along Spy Pond.
- 2. In the area between the Bikeway and a paved path that forks off to the right, descending to the Boys & Girls Club playing fields.









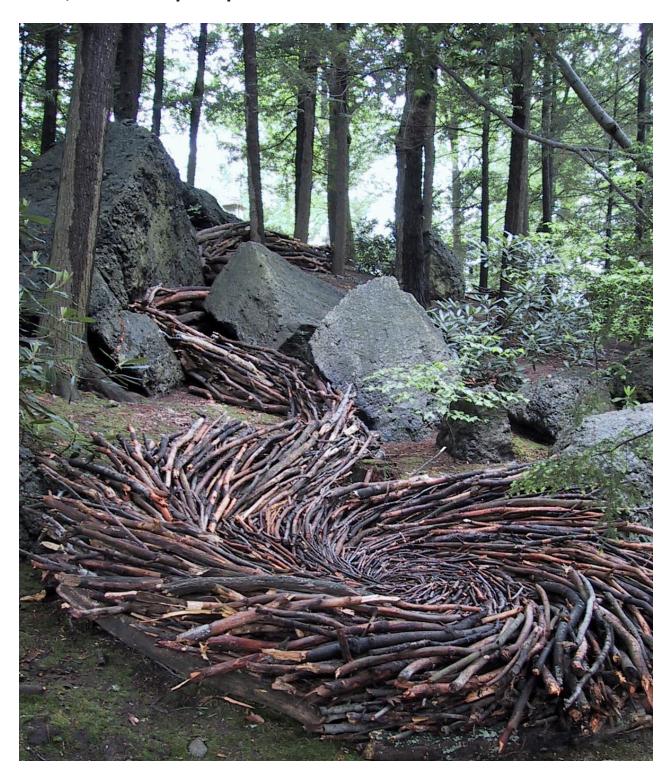
Project Description and Community Participation

"This site-specific installation will work with and respond to the topography of the site. Using gathered natural material from the site I will create a flowing "river" of sticks.

At the top of the stairs near the bike path the sticks/twigs will be small and will start like tiny rivulets. As the sculpture progresses down the hill towards Spy Pond the rivulets will begin to merge and the piece will take on a more massive form. Once the sticks reach the bottom of the stairs, they will again visually disperse into small spirals of twigs." — Frank Vasello

We would develop opportunities for community participation through workshops, artist talks, and volunteering to assist with gathering wood and constructing the final work.

Frank Vasello Lethe, 2014 – example of past work



"As an installation artist I seek to create work that interacts and is informed by the locations in which they are created. I enjoy working onsite, with the natural environment helping guide/dictate the final project. While I am primarily drawn to open, organic spaces, all of my work seeks to highlight the interplay between entropy and natural order. I have always worked with my hands and particularly enjoy gathering materials that will harmonize with the spaces in which I work. I see the action of the gathering of materials as a ritual. It can take many days or weeks to find enough material, and the project is a culmination of that ritual." — Frank Vasello



Approval of Treasurer Bond

Summary: Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel



Article for Review:

Summary:

Article 27 Acceptance of Legislation/Special Education Reserve Fund (postponed from 4.24.17 meeting)

ATTACHMENTS:

Type File Name Description

Reference SPED_RESERVE_FUND_ACCEPTANCE_OF_LEGISLATION_HEARING_REF_MAT.docx warrant article

ARTICLE 27 ACCEPTANCE OF LEGISLATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept provisions of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016 ("An Act Modernizing Municipal Finance and Government"), Section 24, which amends M.G.L. c. 40 by inserting section 13D, to allow the Town/Arlington Public Schools to establish a reserve fund to pay, without further appropriation, for unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition, or transportation; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Superintendent of the Arlington Public Schools)

Acceptance of this provision of the Massachusetts Municipal Modernization Act will allow Arlington Public Schools to more efficiently and effectively address the often unpredictable costs of special education through establishment of a new reserve fund. The Town and APS presently attempt to manage these costs through a Special Education Stabilization Fund, which requires Town Meeting appropriation action to fulfill the School District's special education obligations in any given school year. By accepting this provision, a similar fund would be created and used but would be accessed through approval of the School Committee, which would eliminate considerable uncertainty in the School District's budgeting process. It should be emphasized that a Town Meeting vote is still required to appropriate initial money into the reserve fund, and further, that the balance of such a fund may not exceed 2% of the annual net school spending of the School District. Moreover, a majority of the School Committee must approve the establishment of the reserve.



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